

THE
TESTIMONY and ADVICE
OF AN
ASSEMBLY
Of Pastors of CHURCHES in
NEW-ENGLAND.



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THE
Testimony and Advice
OF AN
ASSEMBLY
OF

Pastors of Churches in *New-England*, *Pastors of*
in

At a Meeting in *Boston*

July 7. 1743.

Occasion'd

By the late *happy Revival of Religion* in many Parts
of the Land.

To which are added,

ATTESTATIONS contain'd in *Letters* from a Number of
their Brethren who were providentially hinder'd from
giving their Presence.

By Order of the Assembly.

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SCOTTISH HISTORICAL

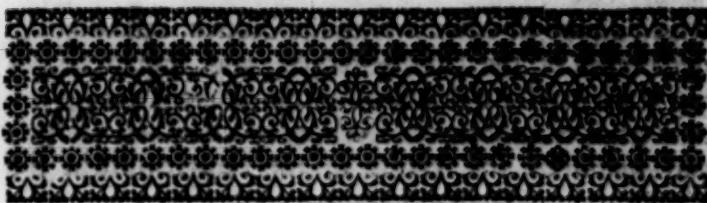
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SCOTTISH HISTORICAL





T H E

Testimony and Advice

Of a Number of Pastors, respecting the
late happy Revival of Religion.

IF it is the Duty of every one, capable of Observation and Reflection, to take a constant religious Notice of what occurs in the daily Course of common Providence ; how much more is it expected that those Events in the divine Economy, wherein there is a signal Display of the Power, Grace and Mercy of God in behalf of the Church, should be observ'd with sacred Wonder, Pleasure and Gratitude ? ----- Nor should the People of GOD content themselves with a *silent* Notice, but *publish with the Voice of Thanksgiving, and tell of all his wondrous Works.* -----

More particularly, When CHRIST is pleas'd to come into his Church in a plentiful Effusion of his Holy Spirit, by whose powerful Influences the Ministratⁿ of the Word is attended with uncommon Succe^s, Salvation-Work carried on in an eminent Manner, and his Kingdom, which is *within Men*, and consists in *Righteousness and Peace and Joy in the Holy Ghost*, is notably advanced, ---- THIS is an Event which

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which above all other invites the Notice, and bespeaks the Praises of the Lord's People, and should be declar'd abroad for a *Memorial* of the divine Grace ; ---- as it tends to confirm the Divinity of a despised Gospel, and manifests the Work of the Holy Spirit in the Application of Redemption, which too many are ready to reproach ; ---- as it may have a happy Effect, by the divine Blessing, for the Revival of Religion in other Places, and the Enlargement of the Kingdom of CHRIST in the World ; ---- and as it tends to enliven the Prayers, strengthen the Faith, and raise the Hopes, of such as are *waiting for the Kingdom of God*, and the coming on of the Glory of the latter Days.---

But if it is justly expected of all who profess themselves the Disciples of CHRIST, that they should openly acknowledge and rejoice in a Work of this Nature, wherein the Honour of their divine Master is so much concerned ; How much more is it to be look'd for from those who are employ'd in the *Ministry of the LORD JESUS*, and so stand in a special Relation to Him, as Servants of his Household, and Officers in his Kingdom ? ---- These stand as *Watchmen* upon the Walls of *Jerusalem* ; and it is their Business not only to give the Alarm of War when the Enemy is approaching, but to sound the Trumpet of Praise when *the King of Zion cometh*, in a meek Triumph, *baving Salvation*. ----

For these and other Reasons, We, whose Names are hereunto annexed, Pastors of Churches in *New-England*, met together in *Boston*, July 7th 1743, think it *our* indispensable Duty, (without judging or censuring such of our Brethren as cannot at present see Things in the same Light with us) in this open and conjunct Manner to declare, to the Glory of sovereign Grace, our full Perswasion, either from what we have seen

seen our selves, or received upon credible Testimony, That there has been a *bappy* and *remarkable Revival of Religion in many Parts of this Land, thro' an uncommon divine Influence*; after a long Time of great Decay and Deadnes, and a sensible and very awful Withdraw of the Holy Spirit from his Sanctuary among us.-----

Tho' the Work of Grace wro't on the Hearts of Men by the Word and Spirit of GOD, and which has been more or less carried on in the Chtrch from the Beginning, is always the same for Substance, and agrees, at one Time and another, in one Place or Person and another, as to the main Strokes and Lineaments of it, yet the *present Work* appears to be remarkable and extraordinary,

On Account of the *Numbers wrought upon* ----- We never before saw so many brought under Soul-Concern, and with Distress making the Inquiry, *What must we do to be saved?* And these Persons of all Characters and Ages. ----- With Regard to the *Suddennes* and *quick Progress* of it ----- Many Persons and Places were surprized with the gracious Visit together, or near about the same Time; and the heavenly Influence diffus'd it self far and wide like the Light of the Morning. ----- Also in Respect of the *Degree of Operation*, both in a Way of *Terror* and in a Way of *Consolation*; attended in many with unusual *bodily Effects*.---

Not that all who are accounted the Subjects of the present Work, have had these extraordinary Degrees of previous Distress and subsequent Joy. But many, and we suppose the greater Number, have been wrought on in a more gentle and silent Way, and without any other Appearances than are common and usual at other Times, when Persons have been awakened to a solemn Concern about Salvation, and have been

been thought to have pass'd out of a State of Nature into a State of Grace.

As to those whose *inward Concern* has occasioned extraordinary *outward Distresses*, the most of them when we came to converse with them, were able to give, what appear'd to us, a rational Account of what so affected their Minds; *viz.* A quick Sense of their *Guilt, Misery and Danger*; and they would often mention the Passages in the Sermons they heard, or particular Texts of Scripture, which were set home upon them with such a powerful Impression. ----- And as to such whose *Joys* have carried them into *Transports and Extasies*, they in like Manner have accounted for *them*, from a lively Sense of the Danger they hop'd they were freed from, and the Happiness they were now possess'd of; such clear Views of divine and heavenly Things, and particularly of the Excellencies and Loveliness of JESUS CHRIST, and such sweet Tastes of redeeming Love as they never had before. ----- The Instances were very few in which we had Reason to think these Affections were produced by *visionary* or sensible Representations, or by any other Images than such as the Scripture it self presents unto us.

And here we think it not amiss to declare, that in dealing with these Persons we have been careful to inform them, That the Nature of Conversion does not consist in these passionate Feelings; and to warn them not to look upon their State safe, because they have pass'd out of deep Distress into high Joys, unless they experience a Renovation of Nature, follow'd with a Change of Life, and a Course of vital Holiness. ----- Nor have we gone into such an Opinion of the *bodily Effects* with which this Work has been attended in some of its Subjects, as to judge them any Signs that Persons who have been so affected, were then under a *saving Work*

Work of the Spirit of God. No ; we never so much as call'd these bodily Seizures, *Convictions* ; or spake of them as the *immediate Work* of the Holy Spirit. Yet we do not think them inconsistent with a *Work of GOD* upon the Soul at that very Time ; but judge that those inward Impressions which come from the Spirit of GOD, those Terrors and Consolations of which He is the Author, may, according to the natural Frame and Constitution which some Persons are of, occasion such bodily Effects. ----- And therefore that these extraordinary outward Symptoms, are not an Argument that the Work is delusive, or from the Influence and Agency of the evil Spirit.

With Respect to Numbers of those who have been under the Impressions of the present Day, we must declare there is good Ground to conclude they are become *real Christians* ; the Account they give of their Conviction & Consolation agreeing with the Standard of the Holy Scriptures, corresponding with the Experiences of the Saints, and evidenc'd by the external Fruits of Holiness in their Lives : So that they appear to those who have the nearest Access to them, as so many *Epistles of Christ*, written not with Ink, but by the Spirit of the living God, attesting to the *Genuineness* of the present Operation, and representing the *Excellency* of it.

Indeed many who appear'd to be under *Convictions*, and were much alter'd in their external Behaviour, when this Work began, and while it was most flourishing, have lost their Impressions, and are relaps'd into their former Manner of Life : Yet of those who were judg'd hopefully converted, and made a publick Profession of Religion, there have been *fewer Instances* of *Scandal* and *Apostacy* than might be expected. ----- So that, as far as we are able to form a Judgment, the

Face of Religion is lately chang'd much for the better in many of our Towns and Congregations ; and together with a *Reformation* observable in diverse Instances, there appears to be more *experimental Godlness*, and *lively Christianity*, than the most of us can remember we have ever seen before.-----

Thus we have freely declar'd our Tho'ts as to the Work of GOD so remarkably reviv'd in many Parts of this Land.---- And now, We desire to *bew the Knee in Thanksgiving to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ*, that our *Eyes have seen*, and our *Ears heard* such Things.---- And while these are our Sentiments, we must necessarily be grieved at any Accounts sent abroad, representing this Work as all *Enthusiasm, Delusion and Disorder*.-----

Indeed it is not to be denied that in some Places many Irregularities and Extravagancies have been permitted to accompany it, which we would deeply lament and bewail before GOD, and look upon our selves oblig'd, for the Honour of the HOLY SPIRIT, and of his blessed Operations on the Souls of Men, to bear a publick and faithful Testimony against ; tho' at the same Time it is to be acknowledg'd with much Thankfulness, that in *other Places*, where the Work has greatly flourish'd, there have been few if any of these Disorders and Excesses. --- But who can wonder, if at such a Time as this Satan should intermingle himself, to hinder and blemish a Work so directly contrary to the Interests of his own Kingdom ? ---Or, if while so much good Seed is sowing, the *Enemy should be busy to sow Tares* ?---- We would therefore, in the *Bowels of Jesus*, beseech such as have been Partakers of this Work, or are zealous to promote it, that they *be not ignorant of Satan's Devices* ; that they *watch and pray against Errors & Misconduct of every Kind*,

Kind, lest they blemish and hinder that which they desire to honour and advance. ---- Particularly,

That they do not make *secret Impulses* on their Minds, without a due Regard to the *written Word*, the Rule of their Duty : A very dangerous Mistake which we apprehend some in these Times have gone into---- That to avoid *Arminianism* they do not verge to the opposite Side of *Antinomianism* ; while we would have others take good Heed to themselves, lest they be by some led into, or fix'd in, *Arminian Tenets*, under the Pretence of opposing *Antinomian Errors*. ---- That *Laymen* do not invade the Ministerial Office, and under a Pretence of *Exhorting* set up *Preaching* ; which is very contrary to *Gospel Order*, and tends to introduce Errors and Confusion into the Church. ---- That *Ministers* do not invade the Province of others, and in *ordinary Cases* preach in another's Parish without his Knowledge, and against his Consent : Nor encourage *raw* and *indiscreet* young *Candidates*, in rushing into particular Places, and preaching publickly or privately, as some have done to the no small Disrepute and Damage of the Work in Places where it once promis'd to flourish. Tho' at the same Time we would have Ministers shew their Regard to the spiritual Welfare of their People, by suffering them to partake of the Gifts and Graces of *able, sound and zealous Preachers of the Word*, as GOD in his Providence may give Opportunity therefor : Being perswaded GOD has in this Day remarkably bless'd the Labours of *some* of his Servants who have *travelled* in preaching the *Gospel of CHRIST*. ---- That People beware of entertaining Prejudices against their *own Pastors*, and don't run into *unscriptural Separations*. ---- That they don't indulge a *disputatious Spirit*, which has been attended with mischievous Effects ; nor discover a *Spirit of Censoriousness, Uncharitableness, and rash judging the State of*

others ; than which scarce any Thing has more blemish'd the Work of GOD amongst us. ----- And while we would meekly *exhort* both Ministers and Christians, so far as is consistent with *Truth* and *Holiness*, to *follow the Things that make for Peace* ; we would most earnestly *warn* all Sorts of Persons not to *despise* these Out-pourings of the Spirit, lest a holy GOD be provok'd to withhold them, and instead thereof to pour out upon this People the Vials of his Wrath, in temporal Judgments and spiritual Plagues ; and would *call* upon every one to improve this remarkable Season of Grace, and put in for a Share of the heavenly Blessings so liberally dispensed. -----

Finally,

We exhort the Children of GOD to *continue instant in Prayer*, that He, with whom is *the Residue of the Spirit*, would grant us fresh, more plentiful and extensive Effusions, that so this Wilderness, in all the Parts of it, may become a fruitful Field : ----- That the present Appearances may be an *Earnest* of the glorious Things promis'd to the Church in the latter Days ; when she shall *shine with the Glory of the LORD arisen upon her*, so as to dazzle the Eyes of Beholders, confound and put to Shame all her Enemies, rejoice the Hearts of her solicitous and now sadned Friends, and have a strong Influence and Resplendency throughout the Earth. ----- *AMEN! Even so come LORD JESUS ; Come quickly !*

After solemn repeated Prayer, free Inquiry and Debate, and serious Deliberation, the above Testimony and Advice was signed by,

Samuel Moody, *Pastor of the first Church in York.*

John White, *Pastor of the first Church in Gloucester.*

Joseph Sewall, *a Pastor of the South Church in Boston.*

Samuel

Samuel Wigglesworth, *Pastor of a Church in Ipswich.*

Ames Cheever, *Pastor of the Church in Manchester.*

Thomas Prince, *a Pastor of the Second Church in Boston,
to the Substance.*

John Webb, *a Pastor of a Church in Boston.*

John Cotton, *Pastor of the Church in Newton.*

Joseph Adams, *Pastor of the Church in Newington,
New-Hampshire.*

James Allin, *Pastor of the Church in Brookline.*

John Chipman, *Pastor of a Church in Beverly,
To the Substance, Scope and End.*

William Cooper, *a Pastor of a Church in Boston.*

Thomas Foxcroft, *a Pastor of the first Church in Boston.*

Joshua Gee, *Pastor of the second Church in Boston.*

Joseph Emerson, *Pastor of the first Church in Malden,
to the Scope and Substance.*

Henry Messinger, *Pastor of the first Church in
Wrentham.*

James Bayley, *Pastor of the 2d Church in Weymouth.*

Nathaniel Leonard, *Pastor of the first Church in Plimouth.*

Thomas Smith, *Pastor of the first Church in Falmouth.*

Nathaniel Rogers, *a Pastor of the 1st Church in Ipswich.*

Josiah Cotton, *Pastor of a Church in Providence,
To the general Scope and Tendency.*

Habijah Weld, *Pastor of the Church in Attleborough,
to the Substance, Scope and End.*

William Hobby, *Pastor of the first Church in Reading.*

James Pike, *Pastor of the Church in Summersworth,
New-Hampshire.*

John

John Warren, *Pastor of the Church in Wenham.*
 Nathan Webb, *Pastor of the Church in Uxbridge.*
 Jedidiah Jewet, *Pastor of the first Church in Rowley.*
 John Emerson, *Pastor of the Church in Topsfield,
 to the Scope and Substance.*
 John Moorhead, *Pastor of a Church in Boston.*
 Solomon Prentice, *Pastor of the Church in Grafton.*
 James Chandler, *Pastor of the 2d Church in Rowley.*
 Othniel Campbell, *Pastor of the 2d Church in Plimton.*
 John Seccomb, *Pastor of the Church in Harvard.*
 Ward Cotton, *Pastor of the first Church in Hamp-
 ton, New-Hampshire.*
 Amos Main, *Pastor of the Church in Rochester,
 New-Hampshire.*
 John Cotton, *Pastor of the Church in Hallifax.*
 James Diman, *Pastor of a Church in Salem,
 To the Substance, Scope and End.*
 Phineas Hemmingway, *Pastor of the Church in
 Townshend.*
 David Goddard, *Pastor of the Church in Leicester,
 to the Substance.*
 Samuel Bachellor, *Pastor of the 3d Church in Haverhill.*
 Daniel Bliss, *Pastor of the Church in Concord.*
 Samuel Tobey, *Pastor of the Church in Berkley.*
 Elias Haven, *Pastor of the 2d Church in Wrentham.*
 Thomas Balch, *Pastor of a Church in Dedham.*
 Samuel Chandler, *Pastor of the 2d Church in York.*
 Samuel Hill, *Pastor of the first Church in Marshfield.*
 Joshua Tufts, *Pastor of the Church in Litchfield,
 New-Hampshire.*

Samuel

Samuel Veazie, *Pastor of the Church in Duxborough.*
 John Porter, *Pastor of the 4th Church in Bridgewater.*
 Jonathan Ellis, *Pastor of the 2d Church in Plimouth.*
 Josiah Crocker, *Pastor of the Church in Taunton.*
 Daniel Emerson, *Pastor of the 2d Church in Dunstable.*
 Francis Worcester, *Pastor of the second Church in Sandwich.*

WE whose Names are under-written concur with the Testimony for the Substance of it, excepting against that Article of Itinerancy, or Ministers, and others, intruding into other Ministers Parishes without their Consent, which great Disorder we apprehend not sufficiently testify'd against, therein.

Benjamin Colman, *a Pastor of a Church in Boston.*
 Joseph Baxter, *Pastor of the Church in Medfield.*
 Nathaniel Eells, *Pastor of the 2d Church in Scituate.*
 Joseph Dorr, *Pastor of the first Church in Mendon.*
 Samuel Checkley, *Pastor of a Church in Boston.*
 Benjamin Bass, *Pastor of the Church in Hanover.*
 Hull Abbot, *a Pastor of the Church in Charlestown.*
 Ezra Carpenter, *Pastor of the Church in Hull.*
 Ebenezer Turell, *Pastor of the Church in Medford.*
 Ebenezer Parkman, *Pastor of the Church in Westboro.*
 Thomas Prentice, *a Pastor of the Church in Charlestown.*
 Simon Bradstreet, *Pastor of the 2d Church in Marblehead.*
 John Fowle, *Pastor of the 2d Church in Hingham.*
 Andrew Eliot, *a Pastor of a Church in Boston.*
 Thaddeus Maccarty, *Pastor of the Church in Kingston.*

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ATTESTATIONS

Contain'd in *Letters* from a Number of *Pastors absent,*
and communicated to the *Assembly.*

I. From the Revd. Mr. JOHN ROGERS senior
Pastor of the 1st. Church in *Ipswich.*

WHEREAS it has been advertis'd in a late
Gazette, or Weekly Journal, that some Revd.
Ministers in *Boston,* and *Places adjacent,* designing to
meet together on the *Day after Commencement,* do
desire, that as many others from the Country, as can
conveniently, wou'd come down and give in their
TESTIMONY for *God,* and the late *glorious and re-*
markable Work of his Grace (marvellously begun and
carrying on among us) and that such as cannot per-
sonally appear would send their ATTESTATIONS in
Writing to that Assembly ;

I being one of this latter Sort, who thro' Age and
Weaknes of Body, am unable to travel so far---
must take this Way to signify my hearty Approba-
tion of such a Design, and also my Readines with
Heart and Hand to subscribe to the *most ample Testi-*
mony that may be drawn by a better Pen, for the
Purpose above-mentioned ; well knowing there can
never be too much or enough spoken or written by
Man to magnify the Mercy of *God* in thus visiting
his People, as of late he hath remarkably been pleased
to do, or enough said or done to shew forth the
Praise of divine Power, and sovereign free Grace, so
wonderfully displayed in innumerable Instances and
Effects thereof.

I have for some Time apprehended it to be the
righteous Expectation of our glorious *LORD,* that all
his Ministers in these Churches, especially such as may
have

have observed with Admiration (and other proper Affections) the great *Revival of the Power of Godliness*, and more general Reformation of Manners (in many Places) as a Fruit of his more *plentiful Effusion* of his most **HOLY** and **BLESSED SPIRIT** on the Minds and Hearts of the People, and (as we trust) in Answer to the constant fervent Prayers of the Faithful, both in the present and preceeding Generations--should in the most publick Manner testify their most grateful Sense of this his unmerited Favour and Loving-kindness to this People and their Posterity.

I should have rejoiced to have seen something of this Nature to have gone before the Testimony of another Sort, (against some real or supposed Errors and Disorders) put forth in the Name of the late Convention. For certainly our **LORD CHRIST** ought (in all Things) to have the Pre-eminence, and most venerable Mention made of his glorious Work, before any Things, which the grand Adversary of his Kingdom and Church may have done to blemish, interrupt or hinder the Progress thereof. Nevertheless I humbly hope and believe it may yet be accepted of **GOD**, and likewise be of great Service to his dear People, if a full and positive Declaration were drawn and subscribed by a Number of *Witnesses* for **CHRIST**, Asserting a *most powerful and clear Work of Grace* (according to our Apprehension) wrought in the Hearts of *Multitudes*, from one End of the Land to the other. All such as *believe it with their Heart*, will readily *confess it with their Mouth*.

Rev. and dear Brethren,

I shall on the *very Day* of your proposed *Meeting*, viz. *July 7th.* (**GOD** continuing my Life to that Day) enter on the *78th Year* of my *Age*, and in the

' 54th of my *Ministry*. And now desire, as I have
 ' utmost Reason, to bless GOD who has given me to
 ' see a Day of such marvellous Power and Grace, par-
 ' ticularly in this Place, and since the Rev. Mr. *White-*
 ' *field and Tennent* came among us ; wherein great
 ' Numbers of our young *People*, and others of more ad-
 ' vanced Age give clear *Evidence of a saving Change*
 ' wrought in them, and by the *Fruits of the SPIRIT* : And many
 ' Persons of *Christian Experiences* before, have been
 ' greatly *revived*, enriched with Grace, established and
 ' comforted by a new Influence, in and through the
 ' Word read and preached : This I have found by
 ' my best *Observation* in general, and more intimate
 ' *Conversation* with many of those *Scores*, yea I think,
 ' I may say *Hundreds* living here and in the Neigh-
 ' bourhood, and with several from distant Places, who
 ' universally speak the same *Language*, all giving
 ' *Testimony* by their *Experience* to the *Truth* of
 ' *Gospel Doctrines of Grace*.

' Such Things as these, my Brethren, with many
 ' others which might be mentioned, and I hope will
 ' be, I would look upon as Instances of GOD's *Mercy*,
 ' Love and Care for his *People* in this Land, and signal
 ' Tokens of his abiding *Presence* with them : That
 ' the *LORD* *God* of our *Fathers* is not about to leave
 ' or forsake us. And they call for our *most publick*
 ' *grateful Acknowledgments* and *biggest Praises* to the
 ' *sovereign LORD* and *gracious HEAD* of his *Church*.

' But we must at the same Time carefully watch,
 ' and bear due *Testimony* against all *Errors* and *Disor-*
 ' *ders* that have or may arise, and continue in *Prayer*
 ' for *further Out-pourings* of the *BLESSED SPIRIT* to
 ' revive his *Work* in the *midst* of the *Years*, and
 ' cause it to spread far and wide, even until the *whole*
 ' *Earth*

‘ Earth be filled with the Knowledge and Glory of the LORD. And in your Prayers remember me, a poor, weak and worthless Creature, that I may be made strong in the Grace of our LORD JESUS CHRIST, enabled to keep the Faith, and finish my Course with Joy in the LORD.

John Rogers, Pastor.

‘ Ipswich, July 2. 1743.

No. II. From the Rev^d. Mr. JEREMIAH WISE, Pastor of the Church in Berwick.

Berwick, July 1. 1743.

IT was my Design to have attended the *Convention of Pastors* after Commencement. But I am prevented by my Infirmitiess, which render me unable well to bear the Fatigue of a Journey in this hot Season. However, it shall be my daily Prayer to the glorious HEAD of the Church, that you all may be under the Guidance and Influence of the DIVINE SPIRIT in all your Proceedings. I shall also be ready to join with the Friends of the *present glorious Work of the Grace of GOD* in the Land, in bearing Testimony to it as *such a Work*; and to concur with them in the most proper *Methods* to remove *Disorders*, and prevent the spreading and increase of *Errors*; especially *Arminian* and *Antinomian*: The latter of which, begin to appear bare-fac'd, as well as the former in some Places. And it seems very natural and easy for those that have been in the Extream of *Arminianism*, to run into the contrary Extream of *Antinomianism*: As a *Pendulum*, if it be swung too far one Way, will, on its Return, swing too far the other Way. Agreeably, it’s evident that some zealous Promoters of the *present glorious Work*, out of Indignation against *Arminian* Principles, which they have lately been delivered from, and which are so derogatory to the *Grace of GOD*; when they have

• espoused the contrary *Doctrines of Grace*, have car-
 • ried Matters too far, and *verg'd* to *Antinomianism*.
 • But this Misconduct of theirs, has given the
 • Enemies of those Doctrines Advantage to reproach
 • them, as naturally tending to *Libertinism*, En-
 • thusiasm, and the like; and to possess People's
 • Minds with Prejudices against them, and the glorious
 • Work of GOD's Grace which through a divine In-
 • fluence has lately attended the powerful preaching
 • of those Doctrines. And they will not neglect to
 • improve the Advantage to promote their own
 • Scheme, and to bring over as many as they can to
 • embrace their Principles; tho' thereby their Con-
 • version should be prevented rather than promoted.
 • And it's to be fear'd, that what some Gentlemen
 • have in View at this Time, is to promote *Arminian-
 • ism* under Colour of discountenancing *Antinomianism*,
 • and bearing *Testimony* against the *Disorders* attending
 • the present Work: And this we ought to be aware
 • of, and duly guard against; lest, instead of advance-
 • ing the Cause and Interest of *CHRIST*, and his Truth
 • and Grace, we should by this Step, prejudice and
 • hurt it our selves, and join with the Enemies of it in
 • destroying it; and that at the same Time we would
 • be thought to be taking Care to promote it. As to
 • *Disorders, Irregularities, &c.* I am of Mr. *Edwards*,
 • the worthy Pastor of *Northampton*'s Mind about
 • them, and therefore must refer you to his *late Book*
 • for what I might say further under this Head;
 • wherein he vindicates the Conduct of the Friends
 • of this Work in *some* of those Things that are ac-
 • counted Disorders, tho' he censures them with Re-
 • spect to *others*.

• With Respect to the ordaining of *Missionaries*,
 • which has been practised for some Time in the
 • Country, and has been lately voted a *Disorder*, I
 • can't

‘ can’t join in censuring it as such ; or in condemning the Practice of separating some of the Fraternity, that are qualified for it, to the sacred Ministry, when there is manifest Occasion for it. Thus, I have written my Thoughts about some Things, that will lie before the Convention, and

am, Sir,

‘ Your unworthy Fellow-Labourer in the Gospel,
‘ *Jeremiah Wife.*

No. III. From the Rev.Mr.PETER THACHER, Pastor
of the first Church in *Middleborough.*

Middleborough, June 30. 1743.

BEING prevented the Opportunity of giving an oral Testimony to the Truth and Reality of the extraordinary Work the LORD has lately appeared in among us, in convincing, converting Sinners, building up, comforting and sealing the converted ; I embrace this Way to do it : In which I shall confine my self to what I have seen and been acquainted with among the People of my Charge, tho' I might speak of the same in other Places.

‘ There have been above two Hundred in a Judgment of Charity sparingly wrought on since November 1741. Diverse before that had been met with under the Ministry of the Rev. Mr. Daniel Rogers and the Rev. Mr. Wheclock, not included in this Number. But on one Day in November aforesaid, above Eighty were pricked at the Heart by a Sermon from Rom. 8. 1. had here from the Rev. Mr. Josiah Crocker. Scarce a Sermon deliver’d after that wonderful Day, but the Hearts of some seem to be reach’d by Conviction, Conversion or Consolation. This Revival of the Power of Godliness appears to be the genuine Work of the HOLY SPIRIT accompanying his Word, and

‘ and in *Answer to a Spirit of Prayer* poured out from
 ‘ GOD to plead with *Faith* in CHRIST for this *Good*.
 ‘ Spiritual Things are now treated and felt as Realities. --- --- ---

‘ We have not known *Visions*, nor *Trances*, nor *Revelations*. But brotherly exhorting with more Modesty
 ‘ and Affection than hath been represented. Neither
 ‘ have these Divine Influences been attended with
 ‘ *anabaptistical Errors*: Twenty that were before in
 ‘ those Mistakes are brought off. Neither have they
 ‘ been attended with the Errors of *Familism*, or *Antinomianism*. The *Arminian Errors* were by the Con-
 ‘ verts universally detected and detected: The *Doctrines of Grace* shine in their Understandings; de-
 ‘ fended and earnestly contended for from inward and
 ‘ real Experience. The *HOLY SCRIPTURES* made
 ‘ the *Standard* to try and examine Truth: which are
 ‘ now carefully searched, and esteem'd above Gold:
 ‘ And those *Principles* that will not bear the Trial by
 ‘ this *Rule*, are rejected. A general and humble Wil-
 ‘ lingness to *ministerial Instructions*, eagerly sought and
 ‘ attended on: yet without giving up their Under-
 ‘ standings. GOD’s *Worship*, publick, private and
 ‘ secret, attended, and otherwise attended than ever.
 ‘ The *Prayerless* are *prayerful*; the *Loose*, *strict*; the
 ‘ *Ordinances* humbly sought, devoutly attended on.
 ‘ I believe I have seen at one Administration, Two
 ‘ hundred tasting the Sweetness of the *Redeemer’s Love*
 ‘ at one Instant. Indeed CHRIST is now precious,
 ‘ breathed after, esteemed, and pathetically recom-
 ‘ mended in Life and Conversation, relied on, rejoiced
 ‘ in. Their *Lives* are reformed as well as *Principles*,
 ‘ scripturally renewed. The *Drunkard* is sober; the
 ‘ *Churl* peaceful: Personal *Feuds* that had been sub-
 ‘ fising *more than eleven Years* are buried; and *Love*
 ‘ takes Place and Power, where *Envy* and *Malice* and
 ‘ Hatred

‘ Hatred formerly ruled : *Restitution* in many Places
‘ made ; in more, the Wrongs acknowledged. In a
‘ Word, all *the Fruits of the SPIRIT* are visible in the
‘ Converts : and they too free from *censurable Entbu-*
‘ *siasm*. *This is evidently the LORD’s Doing, and it’s*
‘ *marvellous in our Eyes !*

‘ The *abovesaid Number* is *exclusive of many Scores*
‘ *who have been awakened by the Word in the late*
‘ *Showers, and yet I fear have rested short of CHRIST,*
‘ *and got secure again.*

‘ I hope the true *Design* of this is, *that GOD may*
‘ *have the Glory of his own Work --- And THIS TESTI-*
‘ *MONY I give, as knowing I must give an Account,*
‘ *with an humbling Sense of my many Deficiencies in*
‘ *this great Day of divine Grace : Intreating the fer-*
‘ *vent Prayers of all that love the LORD JESUS in Sin-*
‘ *cerity, that I may not be a Cast-away, after I have*
‘ *preached to others ; but may find Grace and obtain*
‘ *Mercy from the LORD to fulfil the Ministry I have*
‘ *received, and to be found faithful in all the Parts*
‘ *thereof.*

Peter Thacher.

No.IV. From the Rev. Mr. WILLIAM SHURTLEFF,
Pastor of the second Church in *Portsmouth*, in
the Province of NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

To such of the Reverend *Pastors* of the Churches of
the *Massachusetts-Bay*, or *any other of the neighbouring Governments*, as may convene in *Boston* upon
the 7th Day of *July* 1743.

Reverend and Beloved,

‘ I Should have rejoiced in the Opportunity of being
‘ with you in your *present Convention*, had it been
‘ the Will of GOD ; but being providentially hin-
‘ der’d, I think my self oblig’d to make this brief
‘ De-

• Declaration to the Glory of his Name, viz. *That*
 • *there has for some Time past plainly appear'd to be a*
 • *remarkable Revival of Religion, and a marvellous*
 • *Work of GOD's Grace going on in PORTSMOUTH in*
 • *NEW-HAMPSHIRE ; The Place in which I am cal-*
 • *led to labour in the Gospel Ministry. That among*
 • *the very many that have been awaken'd and deeply*
 • *convinced, there is a goodly Number that are giving*
 • *all the Evidence that can be expected of a real and*
 • *saving Change.*

• I must at the same Time declare there has not
 • been that Disturbance from Lay-Exhorters, from an
 • Invasion of the ministerial Office, and many other
 • Irregularities, that have been complain'd of in many
 • other Places. And here I would take Leave with all
 • Humility to say, that had I the Opportunity of be-
 • ing with you, whilst I should gladly bear Testimony
 • against these Things wheresoever they prevail, I
 • should be for using a becomming Care *that the Disor-*
 • *ders complain'd of might not be magnified in an undue*
 • *Measure, and that nothing might come under that*
 • *Character and Denomination that is not worthy of it.*
 • Whilst I should be *for guarding our Pulpits and Pa-*
 • *riishes against bold, and ignorant Intruders, and such as*
 • *may unjustly pretend to an extraordinary Call and War-*
 • *rant from GOD, I should be careful that none of the*
 • *zealous and faithful Preachers of the everlasting Gos-*
 • *pel, and the important Doctrines of it might be excluded,*
 • *being perswaded that GOD has bles'd the Labours*
 • *of Strangers and even of Itinerants among the People*
 • *with whom I am concern'd. And I can't forbear say-*
 • *ing, that as it appears to me that it would be of ill*
 • *Consequence, if none might upon any Occasion whatso-*
 • *ever preach within the Limits of any Congregation*
 • *without the Leave of its Stated Pastor, I desire that*
 • *neither my self, nor any of my Brethren should be possess'd*
 • *of such an absolute and despotic Power.*

That

' That you may be under the Influence of the great
 ' HEAD of the Church ; that he who holds the Stars
 ' in his right Hand would direct and lead you, and
 ' that you may unite in such Measures as may tend to
 ' the Progress of that good Work that has been begun,
 ' and be a Means greatly to advance his Kingdom and
 ' Interest thro' the whole Land, is the unfeigned
 ' Prayer of one of the meanest, and unworthiest of
 ' your Brethren in the Gospel, &c.

" William Shurleff.

No.V. From the Rev. Mr. JONATHAN RUSSEL Pastor
of the *western Church* in Barnstable.

' I Am of the Mind that there has been *a great and
good Work going forward in many Parts of the
Land, beyond what has been in some Years past.*
 ' Many have been awakned, convinced, reformed, and
 ' I hope many *savingly converted* : and I think we
 ' ought to give GOD the Praise and Glory of it. Yet
 ' I think there should be a proper Testimony born
 ' against the Errors, Disorders and Confusions that
 ' have prevailed in many Places.

' But perhaps the *Question* may occur, *What are
the Disorders, &c. which are to be testify'd against?*
 ' 'Tis probable one may call that Disorder and Con-
 ' fusion which another calls lovely and beautiful, and
 ' endeavours to promote.

' Brother GREEN and I had Thoughts of being at
 ' the *Commencement*, but saw him Yesterday, and he
 ' thinks the State of his Health and other Circumstan-
 ' ces forbid his going. And the Illness of my Family
 ' discourages me. *I hope those who neither come nor
send will not be branded as Opposers.* I wish you the
 ' divine Conduct in the Affair. And desire an Inte-
 D rest

“ rest in your Prayers that I may obtain Mercy to be
“ faithful, and that I may be successful in my Ministry.

“ I am your Brother and Fellow-Labourer,

“ Jonathan Russel.

“ Barnstable June 30. 1743.

No. VI. From Six of the Rev. PASTORS of the *Eastern Association* in the County of York.

WE the Subscribers, *Pastors of the Eastern Association*, taking into serious Consideration the *State of Religion in our several Charges, and through-out the Land at this Day*, look on our selves bound in the most express Manner to declare our selves with respect thereto,

“ And in as much as it incontestibly appears to us from what we have seen among ourselves and in other Places, that by an extraordinary divine Influence, there hath been an HAPPY REVIVAL of RELIGION in our Land; we dare not but publickly speak out our grateful Sense thereof to the Honour of the free and sovereign Grace of GOD.

“ But whereas at the same Time there have been great Complaints of prevailing Errors in *Doctrine* and *Disorders in Practice*, such as, a denying the *Doctrine of the divine Decrees, Justification by Faith alone, irresistible Grace in the Conversion of Sinners*; ---- and also the *asserting, That secret Impulses on the Minds of Persons without due Regard to the written Word of GOD may be depended on as the Rule of their Conduct*; that none are converted but such as know themselves to be so, and can tell the Time when; that *Affurance is of the Essence of saving Faith*; and, that *Sanctification is no Evidence of Justification*; with other the like Arminian, Antinomian and Familistical Tenets and Opinions: All which we judge are contrary to the pure Doctrines of the Gospel: And as to *Disorders in Practice*; such as, *private Persons of no Education, without any regular Call taking upon them to preach the Word of GOD*; the *ordaining and separating any Person to the Work of the evangelical Ministry at Large, and without a special Relation to any particular Charge to enter into the regular Districts of settled Ministers*;

‘ Ministers ; Persons assuming to themselves the Prerogative of
 ‘ GOD to look into and judge the Hearts of others, censuring and
 ‘ condemning their Brethren, and especially their Ministers, as
 ‘ Pharisees, Arminians, blind and unconverted, &c. and upon
 ‘ these pretended Grounds making an actual Separation from
 ‘ their respective Pastors, though they openly disavow the
 ‘ above-mentioned Errors, and are regular in their Lives :
 ‘ All which Errors and Disorders being of pernicious Con-
 ‘ sequence, as tending to obscure the glorious Work of GOD,
 ‘ bring it into Disrepute and obstruct the Progress of it, we
 ‘ would in like Manner bear our joint and solemn Testi-
 ‘ mory against.

‘ And tho’ we are fully persuaded the human Mind under
 ‘ the Operations of the divine Spirit, may be overborn with
 ‘ Joy and Terror ; yet the Transports and Agitations that
 ‘ have appeared in some Places from the ungovern’d Passions
 ‘ of People, and the excess of Joy and Sorrow, we judge to
 ‘ be no certain Indication of the special Presence or Work
 ‘ of the SPIRIT of GOD. But at the same Time we
 ‘ lament the impious Spirit of such as from hence take Occasion
 ‘ to reproach the WORK OF THE DIVINE SPIRIT in the
 ‘ Hearts of the Children of GOD.

Sign’d,

Benjamin Allen, *Pastor of the 2d Church in Falmouth.*
 Wm. Thompson, *Pastor of the Church in Scarboro’.*
 Samuel Jefferds, *Pastor of the Church in Wells.*
 John Hovey, *Pastor of the Church in Arundel.*
 Nich. Loring, *Pastor of the Church in No-Yarmouth.*
 Moses Morrill, *Pastor of the Church in Biddeford.*

At an Association Meeting, Scarborough, June 23. 1743.

‘ Voted, That the above Declaration be delivered to the
 ‘ Rev. Mr. Smith to be by him communicated at Discre-
 ‘ tion to the VENERABLE CONVENTION of Ministers who
 ‘ are to meet at Boston the Day after the approaching Com-
 ‘ mencement, as the Sentiments of the Association with Rela-
 ‘ tion to the present religious Appearances in the Country.

‘ Benjamin Allen, Moderator.
 D 2 No.

No. VII. From the Rev^d. Mr. JOHN ROGERS junior,
Pastor of the 2d Church in Kittery.

MY Heart and Affections are with all of you who love our LORD JESUS CHRIST in Sincerity, and so are real Friends to the glorious Work of his Grace which has been begun and carried on in so remarkable a Manner in our Land, and by such Instruments, as he has been pleased to raise up, and honour with wonderful Successes. I hope now you are together you will be putting up united Prayers to the glorious HEAD of the Church, for the further Effusion of the BLESSED SPIRIT, in his awaking, convincing and converting Influences, and that the dear Children of God may be more rooted and grounded in Faith & Love, and abound in all the good Fruits thereof: And that the LORD would be pleased to raise up more skilful, faithful and industrious Labourers, and send them forth into his Harvest; for indeed the Harvest is plenteous, but the Labours are few. I should not be for spending much Time, in disputing with those who are Opposers of this glorious Work of God's sovereign rich free Grace; but rather in carrying them to the Throne of Grace, and there wrestle with the LORD to open their Eyes, and engage them from an Experience of the Work in their own Souls to regard this glorious and gracious Operation of his HOLY SPIRIT in the Hearts of so many, and that of all Sorts, in one Place and another. For my own Part, I want a Heart to conceive and a Tongue to express the Obligations I am under to admire, adore and Praise the Name of the Lord, for the great Things he has done, and the yet greater (I trust) he will do for his People in this Land; and that he has spar'd me the chief of Sinners, to see this Day of his wonderful Grace: Oh Praise, praise him, on my Behalf; and also wrestle for me when nearest to his Seat, that, I may know the Love of CHRIST which indeed passeth Knowledge, and that it may constrain me to love and live to him.----

But this is the Consolation, The LORD reigneth; there is no Wisdom, nor Counsel, nor Understanding against him; he will carry on his own Work in his own Way; Not by Might, nor by Power, but by MY SPIRIT, saith the LORD of Hosts: Here we may rest. I hope you who are Friends

‘ to this Day, will have the Guidance of the HOLY SPIRIT
 ‘ in drawing up something, in Favour of this glorious Work,
 ‘ that the Subjects and Friends of it abroad, may praise GOD
 ‘ for what he has done among his People here: And if you
 ‘ should be led to this, would it not be proper to send a
 ‘ Draft of it, to those who could not be present with you
 ‘ that not a Hand may be wanting where-ever there is an
 ‘ Heart for it. And, Oh that something may be said against
 ‘ ARMINIANISM as well as ANTINOMIANISM. I wish
 ‘ you much of the Presence of CHRIST, and that whatever
 ‘ may be debated, may be with HIS SPIRIT, and issue in
 ‘ his Glory.

‘ I am your Brother and Friend in the dear JESUS,
 ‘ John Rogers.

‘ Kittery, July 4. 1743.

No. VIII. From seven Rev. Pastors in the County
 of Hampshire.

Reverend and Honour'd Sirs,

WHereas an Advertisement hath lately been published,
 ‘ wherein it is signified, that it is the Desire of a Num-
 ‘ ber of Ministers that there should be a meeting of all such
 ‘ Ministers in this Province as are persuaded that there has
 ‘ of late been a happy Revival of Religion in the Land, at
 ‘ Boston, the Day after Commencement, to give a joint TESTI-
 ‘ MONY to the late glorious Work of GOD's Grace, and to
 ‘ consult what should be done to promote this Work, and
 ‘ to suppress those Things that bring a Reproach upon it
 ‘ and hinder it; and in the same Advertisement it is desired
 ‘ that if any such Ministers are not able to be present at
 ‘ this Interview, they would not fail to send their Testimony
 ‘ and Thoughts in Writing; We whose Names are sub-
 ‘ scribed to this, living at a great Distance, and our Cir-
 ‘ cumstances not well allowing us to go so great a Journey
 ‘ at the Time proposed, would hereby signify; That accord-
 ‘ ing to what Understanding we have of the Nature of Christia-
 ‘ nity, and the Observation we have had Opportunity to make,
 ‘ we judge that there has been within the last two Years and
 ‘ an half, a blessed Out-pouring of the SPIRIT OF GOD in
 ‘ this County, in awakening and converting Sinners, and in
 ‘ enlightning,

* inlighning, quickning and building up Saints in Faith, Holiness and Comfort ; which has been attended in great Numbers with an abiding Alteration and Reformation of Disposition and Behaviour. And particularly we would hereby declare to the Glory of GOD's Grace, that we judge that there has been an happy Revival of Religion in the Congregations that have been committed to our pastoral Care, and that there are many in them that, by abiding Manifestations of a serious, religious and humble Spirit, and a conscientious Care and Watchfulness in their Behaviour towards GOD and Man, give all Grounds of Charity towards them, as having been sincere in the Profession they have made. And however there has been, especially in some Places, a Mixture of Enthusiasm and false Religion, and some have run into great Errors in their Conduct, and some have fallen away, and there is a Declension in others that is to be lamented ; yet we think the Effect has been such, and still continues to be such, as leaves no Room reasonably to doubt of GOD's having been wonderfully in the midst of us, and such as has laid us under great Obligations forever to admire and extol the Riches of his Grace in doing such great Things for us. ----

* Thus Rev. Sirs, Begging of him that he would be with you in your Meeting, and guide you in your Tho'ts and Conclusions with Respect to these Things, and direct you to that which may be for his Glory and the Prosperity of Zion, and desiring your Prayers to GOD for us, and the Flocks committed to our Care, we remain

Honoured and dear Sirs,
 Your Brethren and Fellow-Servants
 in the Gospel Ministry,

Stephen Williams, Pastor of a Church in Springfield.
 Peter Raynolds, Pastor of the Church in Enfield.
 Jonath. Edwards, Pastor of the Church in Northampton
 Samuel Allis, Pastor of the Church in Somers.
 John Woodbridge, Pastor of the 2d Church in Hadley
 David Parsons, jun. Pastor of the 3d Church in Hadley
 Edward Billing, Pastor of the Church in Cold-Spring.
 County of Hampshire

June 30. 1743.

No.

No. IX. From two other Rev. Ministers in the County of Hampshire ; who having seen the aforesaid Attestation, they in another Letter express their Concurrence therewith in the following Terms----

Hadley, June 29. 1743.

His Line occasioned by a Paper sign'd by *some of our Fathers and Brethren in the Ministry in this County respecting the late happy Revival of Religion*, waits on you to let you know, that we can heartily join with those Rev. Gentlemen in giving our TESTIMONY to every Thing there inserted concerning the late Revival of the great and glorious Work of divine Grace in our own and the neighbouring Churches : the happy Fruits whereof are conspicuous in the Lives and Conversations of many of our late Converts especially.

Timothy Woodbridge, *Pastor of the Church in Hatfield*
Chester Williams, *a Pastor of the 1st Church in Hadley.*

No. X. From the Rev. Mr. DANIEL PUTNAM, Pastor of the second Church in Reading.

I Find that *such of our Brethren who are persuaded there hath of late been a happy Revival of Religion thro' an extraordinary divine Influence in many Parts of this Land*, are desired to manifest the same, either by giving their Presence at the appointed Meeting, or by writing. The Circumstances of my Health makes riding grievous to me : but I am ready and that freely and I hope thankfully to declare that I have had the Opportunity, thro' the tender Compassions of a merciful GOD, to see much of the gracious Work of GOD in the Revival of decaying Religion among the People committed to my pastoral Care ; and this without such Disorders and Extreams that are so much complained of in many Places : the Worship of GOD not disturbed. And to give you as brief an Account as I can.

Sometime the beginning of March 1742, under a Sense of the great Decay of Religion among us, we kept a Day

• *Day of Fasting and Prayer*, to seek to GOD for the
 • *pouring out of HIS SPIRIT upon us* : and GOD was pleased
 • *out of his abundant Grace to give us speedy Answers of*
 • *Prayer*. For the space of *five or six Weeks*, more or less
 • *of my People younger and elder came to my House every*
 • *Day in the Week except Sabbaths* ; and manifestly under a
 • *Work of Conviction*, deeply concerned for the State of
 • *their Souls*, and many of them expressing themselves in
 • *these Words* ; *O Sir, what shall I do, what shall I do to*
 • *get rid of my Sins?* Complaining of the *Load of Guilt*
 • *on their Consciences*, and of the *Power of Sin* in their
 • *Souls*, of the *hardness of their Hearts*, of the *Sense of*
 • *GOD's Wrath* due to them : And some signifying to
 • *me*, that *they even now felt what they only before knew*
 • *as by hear-say* ; that the *Heart is so desperately wick-*
 • *ed, and by Nature so unfit for Heaven*. Some when
 • *they heard mention made of CHRIST and of the Mercy*
 • *of GOD* ; I cannot relate the *greatness of the Distress*
 • *that it put them into, to consider that their Sins were*
 • *against such Mercy, such Love!*

• But I will not inlarge. I know this was *the Work of*
 • *the SPIRIT of GOD as a Spirit of Bondage and Fear*, thus
 • *convincing and humbling them* : And the most of these
 • *we have Grounds to hope have been since as fully convinced*
 • *of Righteousness and of Judgment*, of the *Insufficiency of*
 • *CHRIST as Priest and King* ; as they were *convinc'd of*
 • *their Sins and Misery before* ; and we charitably hope have
 • *experienced by Faith in HIM thro' the Merits of his Righ-*
 • *teousness, and the Power of his Grace, that Rest that he*
 • *gives to such weary Souls that receive him with their whole*
 • *Heart* : And there has been *large Additions to the Church*
 • *considering the Number of the People*. And not only has
 • *this been the happy Case of some that were without the*
 • *visible Church*, but even several of the *Members of the Church*
 • *have been very deeply concerned about the State of their*
 • *own Souls* : And I hope it has been for their everlasting
 • *Good*. The *SPIRIT of GOD has in Mercy to our Souls*
 • *been as a refining Fire in this Respect*, I trust I can say ;
 • *and has search'd this Jerusalem as with Candles* : And I
 • *hope that both Foolish and Wise have been awakened now*
 • *while Oyl and Increase thereof may be had*. And not to
 • *inlarge, as I might do, I would mention one Instance in*
 • *particular* :

particular : A Sister of our Church aged Ninety one Years, who hath been under *Desertion* even to a very great Degree for above twenty Years, (who was esteem'd converted in Youth) she in this Time has been favour'd with the *Light* of GOD's *Countenance*, to her abundant Joy, and remains so.

As to my People in general, there has been, and I hope remains a *Reformation* in many Respects which might be mentioned. And my Thoughts of the *Work* of GOD among us are still the same, That it calls for a *publick Acknowledgement* to the *Praise* of GOD ; notwithstanding some *Disorders* and *Errors* there may be in the Land. Can we not distinguish between that which is of GOD and that which is not ? Shall we say there is no *Wheat* because there are *Tares* and *Chaff* ? The *Work* proves it self : and those that have experienc'd it on their own Souls, doubtless are best able to say how it is. Let our earnest *Prayer* be to the *GOD of all Grace* that where he has begun it, he would carry it on, and begin it where it is not begun ; that the *Kingdoms of this World* may become the *Kingdom of our BLESSED LORD AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST* ; that he would go on in a Way of Mercy to pour out his *SPIRIT* upon us, and of his *Blessing* upon our Children ; that we may all know the *Lord* from the *eldest* to the *youngest* ; and may be ready and prepared as a *Bride* for his *coming*.

I am your Brother in the Ministry of the Gospel,

Daniel Putnam.

Reading, June 30th 1743.

No. XI. From the Rev. Mr. OLIVER PEABODY,
Pastor of the Church in Natick.

Natick, July 4th. 1743.

As to my own Thoughts of the present Day ; I freely profess, that I believe there has been a very remarkable and glorious *Work* of GOD in many Parts of this Land of late Years, and it is still in some Measure going on : altho' at the same Time, I believe GOD has permitted some, through an overheated Zeal to do those Things which have very much hindred the Progress of this good *Work*, particularly by prejudicing People against their own

E

Pastors,

• Pastors, encouraging Separations, and encouraging
 • Lay-Exhorters ; and laying too much Stress on Cry-
 • ing out, on being under strong Convictions and then
 • receiving Comfort, &c. I don't look on these
 • Things as any Part of the good Work. For altho'
 • I hope and believe, that where these extraordinary
 • Things have been encouraged there have been some
 • savingly brought Home to CHRIST ; yet as far as I
 • can possibly inform my self, there have been many
 • more in Proportion savingly converted, where Mi-
 • nisters and People have not encourag'd such Things :
 • And I am fully perswaded it will in Time appear
 • evidently to be so. *There have been very observable*
 • *Strivings of the ever BLESSED SPIRIT on the Hearts*
 • *of many, especially Young People, in convincing and*
 • *inlightening, and I hope converting them ; in my*
 • *neighbouring Towns : as in Medfield, Dedbam, Need-*
 • *bam, Medway and Sherbourn, &c. where the Mini-*
 • *sters have been lively and faithful. And among my*
 • *little People, (I would mention it to the Glory*
 • *of the rich Grace, and of the BLESSED SPIRIT*
 • *of God) there have been very apparent Strivings*
 • *and Operations of the HOLY GHOST among Indians*
 • *and English, Young and Old, Male and Female.*
 • *There have been added to our Church (of such as I*
 • *hope shall be saved) about fifty Persons of different*
 • *Nations, since the Beginning of last March was two*
 • *Years, whose Lives in general witness to the Sincerity*
 • *of their Profession. Here, we have never had any*
 • *crying out in an extraordinary Manner, but the*
 • *HOLY SPIRIT has been pleased to work in a more*
 • *calm Way ; but I hope effectually. But I must*
 • *mention it, altho' with Sorrow, that for some Months*
 • *past (altho' some are under powerful Operations)*
 • *yet there has not appeared so much of the genuine*
 • *Operations of the SPIRIT as heretofore ; People's*
 • *Minds have seemed and do seem too much taken*
 • *up*

up with disputing about Persons and Things ; some are for one Minister and some for another, and some I think may say can't bear sound Doctrine ; which with us, has arisen (as I apprehend) from some ignorant and erroneous Persons who have spread and propagated corrupt Doctrines ; as a Specimen of this they say I preach dangerous Doctrines, because I have preach'd that a Person may be converted and not certainly know it, &c.

Upon the whole then, I am humbly of Opinion, that as there ought to be a publick ATTESTATION to the glorious Work of divine Grace among us ; so it ought to be so distinctly considered, and so distinguished from what is a Dishonour to it ; that all may know what we understand by the Work of GOD among us ; and a full explicit Testimony ought to be born by you against all such Things, as in any Measure tend to blemish or binder the Work of GOD among us : And I believe the more particular and express you be, it will be so much the better.

Finally, I earnestly pray that the glorious HEAD of the Church will vouchsafe his gracious Presence and particular Influence and Direction to, and with you, in what is before you ; and that you and all of us may be owned and honoured as Instruments in his Hands, of promoting his Interest and Glory here, that so we may have the Reward of faithful Servants hereafter.

I am your Brother, and Servant,
Oliver Peabody.

P. S. I would particularly remark that some with whom I have conversed date their Convictions which have been still carried on without any great Intermission, before ever Mr. Whitefield came hither. And also that about fifteen Years ago we had something like this, at Natick.

No. XII. From the Rev. Mr. JOHN TUCKE, Pastor
of the Church in Gosport, on the Isle of Shoals, in
the Province of NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

SEEING in the *Boston Gazette* of the 31st of May
last an Intimation that it is desired and pro-
posed by a Number of Ministers in Town and Coun-
try, that such of their Brethren as are perswaded there
has of late been a happy Revival of Religion, through
an extraordinary divine Influence, in many Parts of
this Land, and are concerned for the Honour and
Progres of this remarkable Work of GOD, may have
an Interview at Boston the Day after the approach-
ing Commencement, to consider &c. But if any who
heartily concur in the End and Design of this Propo-
sal, be hindred in Providence from giving their Pre-
sence at this designed Interview, it is earnestly de-
sired they would send their ATTESTATIONS and
communicate their Thoughts seasonably in writing.
According to this Desire and Proposal I had de-
sign'd to be at the Interview, but Providence is
now sending Sickness into my Family, so that I
can't be in *Boston* this Week, I therefore send my
Thoughts in Writing.

I acknowledge the Work in this Land to be a blessed
Work of GOD: And I believe that it is the Duty of
CHRIST's Ministers to give an open conjunct TESTI-
MONY unto it. I apprehend that there are in one
Place and in another certain abominable *Antinomian*,
Arminian, *Socinian*, *Pelagian*, *Familistical*, &c. Er-
rors, and some Disorders in Practice, which ought to
be testify'd against.----

We have a Revival of Religion among us. I beg
your Prayers for my Family, my People, and my
self. I am with all due Regards,

Your humble Servant,

Gosport, July 4th. 1743.

John Tucke.

No

No. XIII. From the Rev. Mr. DAVID HALL, Pastor
of the Church in Sutton.

Having been desired by some of my Brethren, to write, provided I was not like to be personally present at the *Commencement*; to signify my Sentiments of the *Work of a religious Nature*, that has been carried on in many Parts of this Land for some Years past;

I am free, it should be known, that *I do greatly rejoice in the blessed Work that has been in the Land*, and have been to the utmost of my Power labouring to promote it in these Parts.

And as to the *Essence* of it; if I understand the *Doctrines of the Gospel* according to *Truth*, and that *old solid Calvinistical Divinity*, which was so dear to our *Forefathers*; and if the *Writings* of *Messirs. Shepard, Willard, Stoddard*, and numberless other *Divines* of that *Stamp* and *Principle*, are to be regarded as the *Writings* of *Men* that rightly understood the *Way of Salvation*; I must conclude that the *Work* is the *same*, as to the *essential* Parts of it, which in *these Days*, as well as *from the Beginning*, had been by the *Servants* of the most high *God*, *rejoiced in, as the only Way to Heaven, which the Gospel teacheth*.

Some *Irregularities* ('tis true) have sometimes attended the *Subjects* of this *Work*; and some *Imprudences* may also have sometimes attended the *Promoters* of it: But what is *Man* that he should be perfect?

There may be also some *high Pretenders* to the *Work of Conversion* in this remarkable *Day*, that may turn out *Counterfeits*: and such *Tares* have been among the *Wheat* hitherto, and will be to the *End*: so that neither is this to be wondred at.

Moreover I have not been without *Fears*, lest some at this *Day* run into *Antinomian* and *familistical Errors*; and that others would fall into *enthusiastick Phrenses*, *Evils* by all *Means* to be *watch'd* and *guarded* against: And who in this *Life* is out of *Danger*? *Dangers* of this *Kind* are proportionably greater according to the *Height* of *Men's Zeal*, and the *Smallness* of their *Knowledge* and *Experiences*; and if where there is a *vast Number* of *young and zealous Converts* in a *Place*, and *very few* of *long Experience* to steady them,

some

* *some* for a Time appear in some Respects *very weak and un-*
 * *steady* ; 'tis not to be wondred at : being fed with the *sin-*
 * *cere Milk of the Word*, 'tis hopeful, they will grow thereby.
 * *But I conceive that in general the Subjects of this Work,*
 * *are groundlessly charged with such Errors and Evils at this Day :*
 * *and indeed I marvel not at it. For as there are very sad*
 * *Tinctures of Arminianism in many ; so with the Subjects of*
 * *that Error, the PURE DOCTRINES of FREE GRACE and*
 * *JUSTIFICATION by FAITH ALONE, are often charged*
 * *upon, as Antinomian Errors. And with the dead Forma-*
 * *list, THAT SACRED ZEAL, which is inkindled in the*
 * *Breast of true Believers, from the sanctifying Spirit, form-*
 * *ing their Hearts to Love, and drawing forth the Powers of*
 * *their Souls in a fervent lively Manner, to pursue the great*
 * *Duties required of us by GOD in his Word ; why all this is*
 * *by such termed Enthusiasm.*

* *And no wonder therefore there are so many Enemies to*
 * *the blessed Work of GOD in the Land ; seeing it is to be*
 * *feared there are so many, who would have all be counted*
 * *Enthusiasts, Antinomians, &c. that are under any powerful*
 * *Constraints from the Views of divine Sovereignty and Grace.*

* *But let such Men think what they will of their slighting*
 * *the precious Showers of divine Grace ; yet I am of the*
 * *Opinion of Mr. Edwards of Northampton, that the GREAT*
 * *JEHOVAH of a Truth has been in New-England.*

* *And although I hope many of those who are fighting*
 * *against this Work, doing it ignorantly will find Mercy ;*
 * *yet for one that has seen and known so much of the Power and*
 * *Grace of GOD, in breaking down the stubborn Hearts of*
 * *so many Scores of Sinners, that were wicked Liver, turning*
 * *them from their ungodly Courses to the Ways of Virtue ;*
 * *who are become some of the most lively Christians, and as far*
 * *as I can learn and judge, walking in Godliness and Honesty ;*
 * *as also the wonderful Change I have observed, even upon*
 * *such as were moral Men before, and high Professors, who*
 * *have been convinced of their being very Hypocrites, building*
 * *upon a false Foundation, who declare with Wonder and*
 * *Transport, what GOD has done for their Souls, and think*
 * *none so beholden as they, to divine sovereign Grace : Upon*
 * *the whole, if after all that I have seen and known, of the*
 * *Wonders of GOD's Power and Grace, I should join in with*
 * *such, as render these Doings of the LORD to be the Work of*
 * *the*

‘ the Devil, I have thought in me it would be the Sin against
 THE HOLY GHOST.
 ‘ I stand ready to join in bearing any proper Testimony against
 the Ingratitude of the Men of this Generation. And for my
 own Part think, I can never praise GOD enough, for the
 Work he hath wrought among us ; and doubt not but he will
 carry it on to greater Perfection.

‘ From your unworthy Brother,
 ‘ Sutton June 30. 1743. David Hall.

No. XIV. From the Rev. Mr. BENJAMIN BRAD-
 STREET, Pastor of the Church in Gloucester.

‘ WHEN I first saw in the Tuesday’s Paper of
 May the 31st. the *Proposal and Desire* of a
 Number of *Ministers* both in *Town and Country*, that
 such of their Brethren as are persuaded that there has
 of late been a happy *Revival of Religion*, thro’ an ex-
 traordinary divine Influence in many Parts of this
 Land, &c.----Might have an *INTERVIEW* at *Boston*
 the Day after the approaching *Commencement* ; im-
 mediately I thought within my self I wou’d be pre-
 sent then ; but the Circumstances of my Family
 are such as by no Means will admit of it.

‘ Therefore this comes to inform you ; that I am
 fully persuaded that of late (Glory be to GOD) there has
 been a happy *Reformation*, and glorious *Revival of Re-*
ligion in a wonderful Manner, in many Places in NEW-
 ENGLAND ; tho’ in some Places attended with some
 Irregularities and Disorders thro’ the permit-
 ted Agency of *Satan* ; and no Wonder at all that
 this grand *Arch-Enemy* should use all his Devices at
 such a Day, to blemish so glorious a Work, which
 so fatally shakes his Kingdom.

‘ I am sure in my little *Parish* there is of late a very
 considerable *Reformation* and *Revival of Religion*.
 (Let GOD have all the Glory:) Tho’ I had labour’d
 hard for it, yet I could never persuade *young Persons*,

to form themselves into a Society, for the spending
 together the Sabbath Evening in religious Exercises,
 until about fifteen Month past : And now we have
 two Societies of young Persons who meet together
 twice in the Week to read, sing, and pray ; to each of
 which I preach once a Quarter. And some of them
 which were too much addicted to the youthful Sins
 of Quarreling, Swearing, Drinking, &c. seem to
 be wonderfully reformed, and are hungering and thirst-
 ing after the Righteousness of CHRIST ; and there is
 a very pleasant Change wrought in them. And the
 Aged many of them (tho' some are stumbled at the
 present Day) among us seem to be anointed afresh :
 And there is a happy Revival of Religion. Our
 Lectures which have been once a Week, for more than
 fifteen Month past, are fuller and better attended, than
 when we had (as formerly) a Lecture once in six
 Weeks. We have had many, (mostly young Persons)
 under great Concern and deep Convictions, many cry-
 ing out in Time of divine Service under a Sense of
 their Sins, What they shou'd do, and the most of them
 have had their Convictions ending in the Joy of the
 LORD, and Comfort of the HOLY GHOST.

In my very small Parish (consisting of about eighty
 Families) we have had in about twelve Month past
 (when we had before more Communicants than Fa-
 milies) about forty added to the Church ; and all ex-
 cepting one, by the Grace of God (blessed be his
 Name) live to bear good Fruit.

Thanks be to God, we have no Divisions, nor Se-
 parations among us ; we are without Dreams, Visions,
 and Trances, (tho' there has been some in the Neigh-
 bourhood) nor are we troubled with Exhorters. The
 People seem to express a greater Love for their Mi-
 nister, and a greater desire than ever to bear the Word ;
 and I hope their unworthy Minister has a greater
 Regard than ever for their Souls.

* So that I am far from joining with those, who say
 * the present Day in general is a dark Day to our
 * Churches, and looks with a melancholly Aspect.
 * (Tho' to be sure, for the *Divisions* of Reuben there
 * ought to be great *Searchings of Heart*; and my Soul
 * mourns in secret for the *Divisions* of the House of
 * Levi, and the *Separation* there is from some of our
 * Churches; and I freely confess that I verily believe,
 * there has been of late and now is, a *blessed Work* of
 * God going on in many *Parts of this Land*, and divine
 * *Influence* the *Spring of it*. And it is surprising to me
 * that any, because of some Disorders, should attribute
 * the whole of the glorious Scene to the *Delusions* of
 * the *Devil*; for I am full in the Opinion that *in gene-*
 * *ral the present Day is a glorious Day of God's Grace*
 * *to NEW-ENGLAND*. Should be exceeding glad, if
 * at your Interview (and to this End my Heart's De-
 * *sire* and *Prayer* to almighty God is that much of
 * the divine *Presence* may be with you) *some Method*
 * *may be taken* (as is one proposed *End* of your *Meet-*
 * *ing*) *to guard People against such Delusions & Mistakes*,
 * *as at such a Season they are in Danger of falling into*,
 * *and that this blessed Work may continue and flourish*
 * *among us*.---I ask your *Prayers* for me, and my
 * *Flock*: and am your *Servant* and *Brother* in the *Faith*
 * and *Fellowship* of the *Gospel*,

" Benjamin Bradstreet.

" Gloucester Annisquam Parish June 30. 1743.

No. XV. From the Rev. Mr. JOHN WALES, Pastor
of the Church in Raynham.

* **I** Having lately been inform'd by the *public Prints*,
 * that it is the Desire of a Number of *Ministers* in
 * *Boston*, and *else where*; that those of their
 * *Brethren* in the *Ministry*, who are convinced, that the
 * *present Operation upon the Minds and Consciences of*
 * *People in this Land, is THE WORK of GOD*; would
 * meet

meet in *Boston* the *Day after Commencement* ; to
 counsel and advise what may be proper to be done for
 the promoting this good Word, and also to prevent
 those Imprudencies that in some Places, have been
 said to attend it ; my Circumstances will not admit
 of my coming down ; I therefore thought I would
 write a Line to let you know, that *I most firmly*
believe the present Operation to be THE WORK
of the blessed GOD ; and I, and many of my
 Charge, I hope shall forever bless and praise
 the great GOD for the great Display of his spe-
 cial Grace, he has lately made in this Place, in bring-
 ing of many Souls sparingly to close with CHRIST, and
 embrace him according to the Gospel Offer.

As to the *Imprudencies and Irregularities* that have
 been said to attend this blessed Work, *I can say nothing*
about them ; for *I have seen* (blessed be God for it)
 few if any of them. I should greatly rejoice, to have
 any Thing done, that might have a Tendency to
 promote this Work of the blessed GOD in this Land,
 and thro' the World : and should be willing to have
 my Name annexed to any Thing that may be pub-
 lish'd, for the promoting and encouraging this
 Work of GOD. In the general, I am full in my Thot's
 with Mr. Edwards in his *Discourse, upon the present*
Revival of Religion, in five Parts ; and am willing
 to have my Name set to what may be publish'd con-
 sistent with that.

It is my Purpose to give in my *Testimony to this*
great and good Work, and an *Account of the Rise and*
Progress of it among us, in a short Time ; and
 therefore shall not now enlarge. Praying that the
 GREAT SHEPHERD may lead his faithful Ambassadors
 into such Methods and Measures, (on the Day of
 their Convention) whereby his Glory may be advan-
 ced, and the Kingdom of our LORD and SAVIOUR
 JESUS CHRIST be made to flourish every where, by
 Souls

• Souls being brought into it : Intreating an Interest
 • in your Prayers to God for me and my Charge ; I
 • subscribe my self your most unworthy Servant in the
 • Labours of the Gospel of the BLESSED JESUS.

• John Wales.

Raynham, July 4th. 1743.

No.XVI. From the Rev. Mr. IVORY HOVEY, Pastor
 of the second Church in Rochester.

IN Compliance with the Desire of some of the
 Rev. Ministers at Boston, viz. That the Ministers
 of this Land who could not be present at an appoint-
 ed Interview the Day after Commencement, and yet
 were fully satisfied in their own Minds, that there has
 of late been an extraordinary Work of GOD'S SPIRIT
 upon the Hearts of People in this Land, or a special
 Revival of Religion in many Places among us, would
 communicate their Thoughts in Writing : These
 are to inform, that I the Subscriber being fully per-
 swaded that there has been such a Work, such a glori-
 ous Out-pouring of the HOLY SPIRIT upon our
 Land of late ; think myself obliged in Gratitude, and
 bound in Duty to the GLORIOUS AUTHOR of said
 Work, to join with you in giving Glory and Praise
 unto Him for the same (according to my Capacity.)
 At the same Time am ready to join with you also
 in bearing proper Testimony against those Errors in
 Doctrine, & Disorders in Practice that any may have been
 guilty of, or fallen into since this blessed Revival. In
 a Word, I having seen & carefully perused a Declara-
 tion signed by the Rev. Ministers of the Eastern Associa-
 tion of the County of York (which I suppose you have
 in your Hands) can readily unite with them in each
 Article : Altho' I at first hesitated a little when I
 came to that Article of ordaining Ministers at large,
 yet when I had pondered upon it and heard their
 Explanation of it, I think I can comply with it in

the Sense they intend it: So that I need not be
 more particular in declaring my Sentiments. But
 earnestly desiring an Interest in your Prayers for me
 and my Flock, I remain yours in the Fellowship of
 the Gospel,

Ivory Hovey.

Biddeford, June 26. 1743.

An APPENDIX

Containing ATTESTATIONS which have come to the
 Committee from several Pastors since the *Breaking up*
 of THE ASSEMBLY.

No. I. From the Rev. Mr. APPLETON, Pastor of the first
 Church in Cambridge, in the County of Middlesex.

Cambridge, July 18. 1743.

Reverend Gentlemen,

WHEREAS I was not present at the *Assembly*,
 of Ministers in Boston the *Day after Commencement*, I do now agreeable to the *Desire* and
Proposal in the *publick Prints* send in the following
 ATTESTATION, containing my Thoughts concerning the late, and present Times, relating to Religion, viz.

From what I have heard, and from what I have seen, and observed in several Towns; but more especially in my own Flock, I can testify that there has been in some of the Years past, a religious Concern among People of all Ages, but more especially of the younger Sort, that has been extraordinary. And I am perswaded that the SPIRIT of GOD has been stirring up Convictions in Multitudes, beyond what has

has been common. And there is Reason to hope that greater Numbers than usual, have had gracious saving Impressions made upon their Souls; which is to be acknowledged to the Glory of God's rich and free Grace. And I am perswaded from my Acquaintance with Ministers, that this is the Judgment and Opinion of a great Number of them whose Names will not be found in this publick Testimony.

But then what I look upon as Matter of Lamentation at this Day is, that those Convictions as to great Numbers in these Parts of the Land have dyed away without leaving any good Effect upon them. And that thro' the Weakness of Men, and the Subtilty of Satan, many Errors, Delusions and Disorders have crept into some Places, and much of the religious Concern is degenerating into Controversy.

But I pray God that the Testimonies and the Counsels, that are or have been given by the Ministers of CHRIST, may be blessed for the suppressing every Thing of a threatening Aspect upon these Churches: And that we may all be directed to, and united in, those Measures which God will own, and bless for the further promoting and advancing the Interest and Kingdom of JESUS CHRIST among us, even that Kingdom of his, which is Righteousness and Peace and Joy in the Holy Ghost.

Nathanael Appleton.

No. II. From the Rev. Mr. PARKER, Pastor of the first Church in Plimpton, in the County of Plymouth.

Plimpton, July 4. 1743.

I Was desirous if Providence had given Leave to have been at the CONVENTION this Week: but my Circumstances are such that I must be excused. I wou'd therefore by a Line signify my Thoughts of the Work which has of late so remarkably appeared among

‘ among us : And as I have had Opportunity of seeing and conversing with many that have been the Subjects of this Work, and of observing their holy, blameless and circumspect Walk and Conversation ; I am fully convinced that it’s no other than a glorious Work of GOD, and a Day of his great Power and Grace ; and that all are obliged to own and acknowledge it to the Praise and Glory of free Grace.

‘ I am of Opinion that Mr. Edwards has given a faithful Account of the good Work going on in the Land in his Book intitled, *Some Thoughts concerning the present Revival of Religion in NEW-ENGLAND* : and well observes that such as reject such a Work as he has described as not being the Work of GOD must reject the Bible, not only in some particular Passages but in the Substance of it. Page 60, 61. And I think he has impartially considered those Things of a bad Tendency which attend the present Work of GOD, and which need to be corrected and avoided.

‘ I have no more to add but my sincere Prayer, that all CHRIST’s Ministers who may convene on this great Occasion, may enjoy much of the divine Presence, and be directed to bear such a TESTIMONY for GOD in this remarkable Day of his Grace, as that (by the Blessing of Heaven) it may serve to convince Gainers, and to fill both the Hearts and Mouths of his Saints with Praise and Thanksgiving for the great and good Things which GOD is doing for this People.

‘ I beg Leave to subscribe your Brother in the Work of the Gospel, and humble Servant,

‘ Jonathan Parker.

No.

No. III. From the Rev. Mr. McGREGORE, Pastor of the second Church in *Londonderry*, in the *Province of NEW-HAMPSHIRE*.

IT was with no small Satisfaction that I heard of such a Number of Ministers meeting in *Boston* the 7th Instant, in order to give a UNITED TESTIMONY to that glorious Work of GOD's Power and Grace with which he has been graciously visiting our Land.

Tho' my Attendance at the Convention had been but of small Consequence, yet I should gladly have gone there to contribute my Mite, had not a long Journey *Eastward* prevented me, to the Prosecution of which I was under a previous indispensable Obligation.

As to the remarkable religious Appearances that have been in various Parts of our Land these two or three Years last by gone ; after the most deliberate and impartial Inquiry I have been capable of making, endeavouring to give every Thing its due Weight in the Ballances of the Sanctuary, I have long ago come to the following Conclusion, in which I am daily more and more confirm'd ; viz.

That as far as my personal Knowledge has reach'd, I look upon these religious Appearances in the general to be the HAPPY EFFECTS of DIVINE INFLUENCE. I have had an Opportunity of being personally and particularly acquainted with a great Number of those who have been the Subjects of religious Concern in this acceptable Year of the LORD : And when I hear them declare what they have experienced on their own Souls with Respect to Conviction, Humiliation, Illumination of the Mind in the Knowledge of CHRIST, together with a happy consequent Change they experience in the Will and affections, and withal observe the Correspondency of their Lives with their profess'd Experiences ; I am unavoidably led to conclude,

' clude, in a Judgment of Charity of *many* of them,
 ' that they have really undergone a saving Change. I
 ' have long observed a remarkable Uniformity in the
 ' main Strokes of their spiritual Concern. And more
 ' lately have noticed with particular Pleasure, a great
 ' Thirst after Doctrinal Knowledge, a greater Insight
 ' into their own Hearts, and a Love growing more and
 ' more in Knowledge and in all Judgment.

' As to Errors in Doctrine or Disorders and Extra-
 ' vagancies in Practice that any who have been the
 ' Subjects of the late religious Concern may have fal-
 ' len into; I am humbly of Opinion that these, if
 ' such there be, ought neither to be winked at, nor re-
 ' presented through a Microscope, but proper Testimony
 ' should be born against them. Yet in the mean Time
 ' I think they should not be represented ten fold greater
 ' than they really are, and by this Means the Glory of
 ' GOD's Work obscured under a Cloud of *imaginary*
 ' Errors and Disorders. For my own Part I have seen
 ' little or no Appearance of the Growth of *Antinomian*
 ' Errors, or any Thing visionary or enthusiastick, either
 ' in mine own Congregation or among the People in
 ' the Neighbourhood where I live. Indeed if asserting
 ' Justification by Faith alone, and Denying it by the
 ' Law as a Covenant of Works, while the eternal Ob-
 ' ligation of the Law as a Rule of Life, is strongly
 ' maintained in Practice as well as Profession, if this
 ' (I say) be *Antinomian* Doctrine; then we have a
 ' great Growth of *Antinomianism*. Again, if asserting
 ' the Necessity of supernatural Influence or divine
 ' Energy in Conversion, or, the Reality of the imme-
 ' diate witnessing and sealing of the SPIRIT be En-
 ' thusiastick; then we have a remarkable Spread of En-
 ' thusiasm: And in these Senses may *Antinomianism*
 ' and *Enthusiasm* grow more and more till they over-
 ' spread the whole Land.

‘ If you apprehend that the Publication of this Letter, or any Part of it, will be of Service to the glorious Work of GOD; I am willing you should make that Use of it. The Substance thereof being what I trust (through divine Assistance) I shall always adhere to, and never be ashamed of.

‘ I subscribe with great Respect, one of the meanest of your Fellow-Labourers in the Vineyard of our common LORD,

David Mac Gregor.

Londonderry, July 19th. 1743.

No. IV. From twelve Rev^d. Pastors of Churches in CONNECTICUT COLONY.

Norwich, June 23. 1743.

WE the Subscribers, Ministers of the Gospel, in (and in the Neighbourhood of) this Town, being occasionally met here, have just had a Sight of a Paragraph in the Weekly Post-Boy of the 30th of May last, wherein it is propos'd by a Number of Ministers, that such of their Brethren as are persuad-ed there has been of late, *an happy Revival of Religion in many Parts of the Land*, might have an Interview at Boston the Day after the Commencement approaching, and desire that those who may be hind-ered in Providence, from giving their Presence at the design'd Interview, wou'd send their ATTESTA-TIONS and communicate their Thoughts seasonably in Writing.

Since we are not like to be at the propos'd Interview, we take this Opportunity to signify to you that, for our own Parts we are abundantly satisfied that there has of late, for about three Years past, been a great and wonderful Revival of Religion in the several Places to which we minister, and in divers others which

we are acquainted with ; wherein, thro' the mighty
 Power and Grace of GOD great Numbers of Persons
 of all Sorts, but especially young People, have been
 greatly awakned, deeply convinc'd of Sin ; and many,
 as far as we can judge upon careful Observation
 and Examination, truly humbled at the Foot of a
 sovereign and righteous GOD, and *soaringly* brought
 to believe on the Lord Jesus CHRIST for everlast-
 ing Life : and have since lived so as to give Cre-
 dit and Confirmation to their Pretensions ; and do
 now adorn their Profession in an humble and holy Life
 and Christian Conversation ; walking in the Fear and
 Love of GOD, and bringing forth Fruits meet for
 Repentance, in the Exercise of the Graces and Vir-
 tues of the Christian Life.

Although many who have made a Profession of
 Christianity and Conversion have run into impru-
 dent Things, and discovered much *Spiritual Pride*,
 by rash censorious Judgings, hasty Separations from
 their Ministers and Brethren, and some have em-
 braced *wrong Notions and Principles* in Religion,
 (tho' there has been *little of that in the Places where*
 we live) yet we know of great Numbers who have
 been happily preserved from such Falls and Fail-
 ings, and who carry themselves like the meek and
 humble Disciples of the blessed Jesus ; and some
 who have been led astray thro' the *Subtilty of Satan*,
 have, by Grace, been *recover'd* and in a great Measure
 convinc'd of those Follies and Mistakes, and humbled
 for the Pride and Naughtiness of their Hearts. And
 all of a bad Tendency and Nature that we have seen
 does not give us *any Reason* to think that there has
 not been a great and glorious Work of divine Grace car-
 ried on among us, and a great Reformation & Revival
 of Religion ; for which we desire to praise and adore
 the sovereign Mercy of GOD.

Our

• Our Time is now short, and we can't pretend to
 give a particular Account of *the Work of God* among
 our People, or of the *bad Things* which have been the
 Concomitants of *this blessed Work*; yet thus much
 we thought our selves oblig'd to say to *the Praise of*
divine Grace, and the Glory of Him who is the Author
of all Good, to whom be all Glory, &c.

We are your Brethren, &c.

Joseph Meacham, *Pastor of the Church in Coventry.*

Benjamin Lord, *Pastor of the first Church in Norwich.*

Hezekiah Lord, *Pastor of a Church in Preston.*

Solomon Williams, *Pastor of the first Church in Lebanon.*

Daniel Kirtland, *Pastor of a Church in Norwich.*

Jabez Wight, *Pastor of a Church in Norwich.*

John Owen, *Pastor of the first Church in Groton.*

Samuel Moseley, *Pastor of a Church in Windham.*

Jonathan Parsons, *Pastor of the first Church in Lyme.*

Eleazer Wheelock, *Pastor of a Church in Lebanon.*

Benjamin Pomroy, *Pastor of the Church in Hebron.*

David Jewett, *Pastor of the 2d Church in New-London.*

C O R R I G E N D A.

Page 12 line 31 for *was* read *is.*

line last---To the Rev. Dr. Sewall's Name, should
 have been added---*To the Substance, Scope and End.*

Page 15 l. 10 dele against.

Page 42 line 2 for *Counsel* read *Consult.*

line 3 for *Word* read *Work.*

